

# **City of Rockville Environment Commission**

## **Sustainable Development and Energy Committee (SDEC)**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, May 15, 2012**

**Diamondback Terrapin Room, City Hall**

**7:00 pm**

#### **1. Welcome / Agenda Review/Minutes Adoption**

- In attendance: Clark Reed (via phone), John Becker, Lea Rosenbohm, Herb Winkler and staff liaison Erica Shingara.
- The meeting convened at 7:10. The April meeting minutes were approved.

#### **2. Environment Commission Report**

- There is one vacancy on the Commission. Interested applicants should contact Mark Charles, Chief of the Environmental Management Division.
- On April 30th, the Mayor and Council adopted an ordinance to establish a high performance building tax credit that provides an incentive to existing commercial buildings that invest in energy efficiency and green improvements. Although funds were not appropriated for the tax credit in FY 2013, staff will collaborate with the Rockville Chamber of Commerce to educate commercial property owners about the program and assess interest and need for FY 2014.
- The Watershed Committee reported on the April stream cleanups.
- The Commission requested the LEED scorecard and application update for the Montgomery College Environmental Excellence Award nomination.

#### **3. Environmental Management Division Report**

- The proposed ordinance updating Chapter 5 (Buildings and Building Regulations) to incorporate the 2012 International Code Council (ICC) model codes was introduced by the Mayor and Council on April 16, 2012. A public hearing was held on May 14, 2012 and the record was extended to May 25, 2012.
- EMD will be partnering with the Science Café to host a tour of stream restoration and SWM improvement projects on June 23.
- Earth Month Recap:
  - The City received 56 submissions for the Environmental Photo Contest and 2 submissions for the Environmental Excellence Awards. Awards were presented by the Mayor and Council on May 14.
  - 12 people attend a non-native invasive species plant harvest and paper making workshop at VisArts.
  - There were over 20 stream cleanups throughout the City with over 200 volunteers (final numbers being collected). These cleanups support a larger regional effort to improve the Potomac River watershed.
  - 28 organizations and businesses participated in Green Business Certification training on April 10.

- EMD hosted environmental education booths at the Tower Companies, JBG, and the CCNC Spring Festival.
- Over 50 volunteers planted shrubs and wetland plants at the Twinbrook Community Center on April 21.
- Other Earth Month events included the annual Arbor Day celebration, Spring Festival and native plants sale, VisArts Sustainability art exhibit, and various educational workshops.

#### **4. Hometown Holidays and YERT (Your Environmental Road Trip) Film Screening**

- As part of Hometown Holidays, the Environment Commission will be sponsoring 3 film screenings of YERT, followed by discussion with the movie's producer Mark Dixon. This award winning eco-documentary follows three friends on a road trip to all 50 States exploring America (the good, bad, and weird) in search of breakthrough solutions to environmental challenges. Movie information will be included at the Commission's booth on Saturday and the YERT mobile is registered to be in the Parade on Monday.
- Approximately 30 people have RSVP'd for the VIP invitation.
- Action Items:
  - Erica: Get email addresses for other committees; get name tags, signs, eco-friendly supplies, and Environmental Commission applications; include the screening information on the Rockville Patch, Gazette, Hometown Holidays materials, MyGreenMontgomery.org, and listeserves; and give out HH access passes to Commissioners (Erica)
  - Clark: Check out library for setup, draft introduction and seed questions, food?
  - Lea: Seek other food donations
  - John: Coordinate final location and access for solar tracker
  - Devinie: send out another round of invites and reminder email.

#### **5. Member News / Announcements / Upcoming Events**

- No new announcements.

#### **6. Wrap-up and Adjourn**

The next SDEC meeting is tentatively scheduled for **Tuesday, June 19, 2012** at Rockville City Hall. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:20 pm.